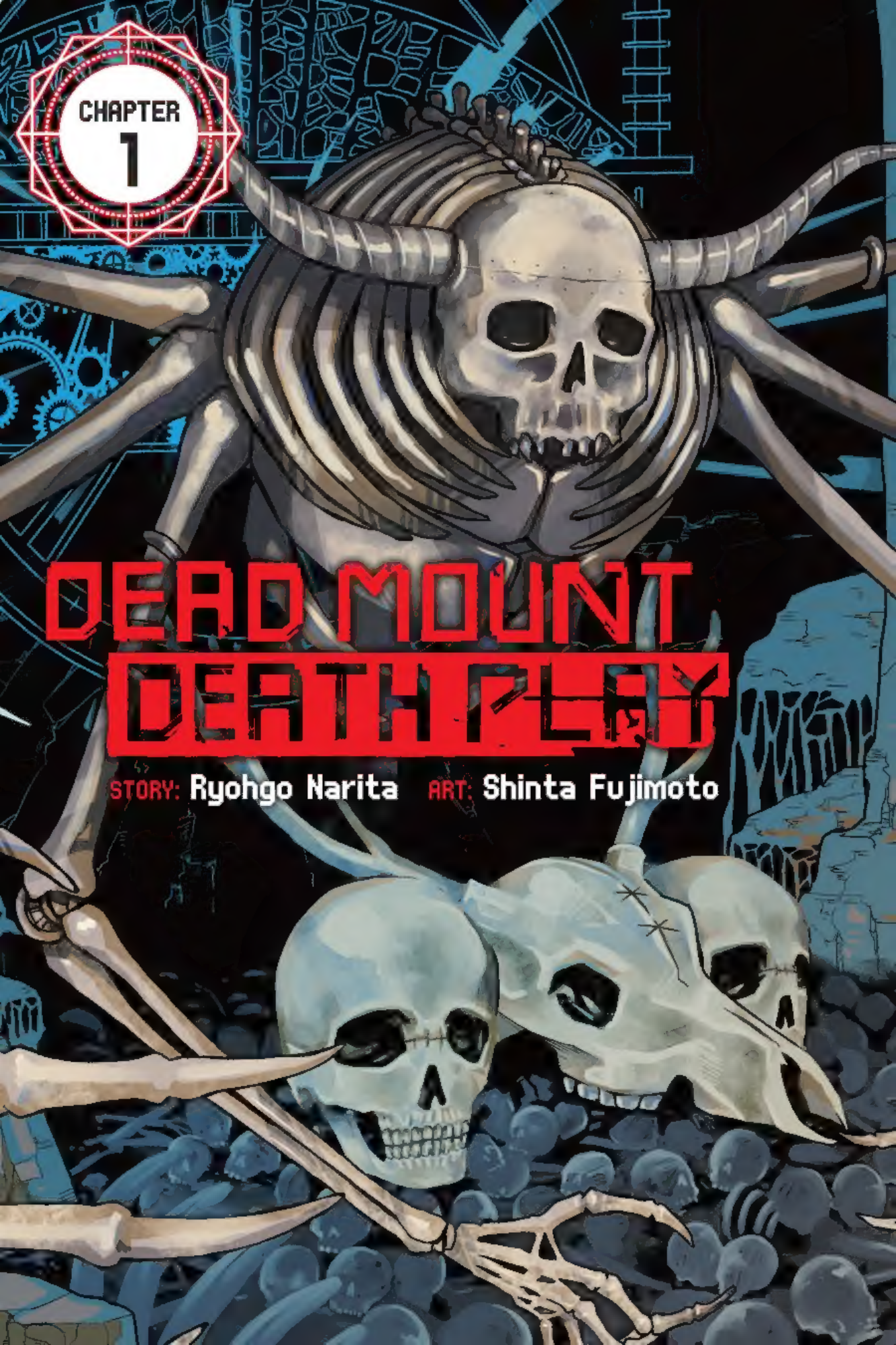
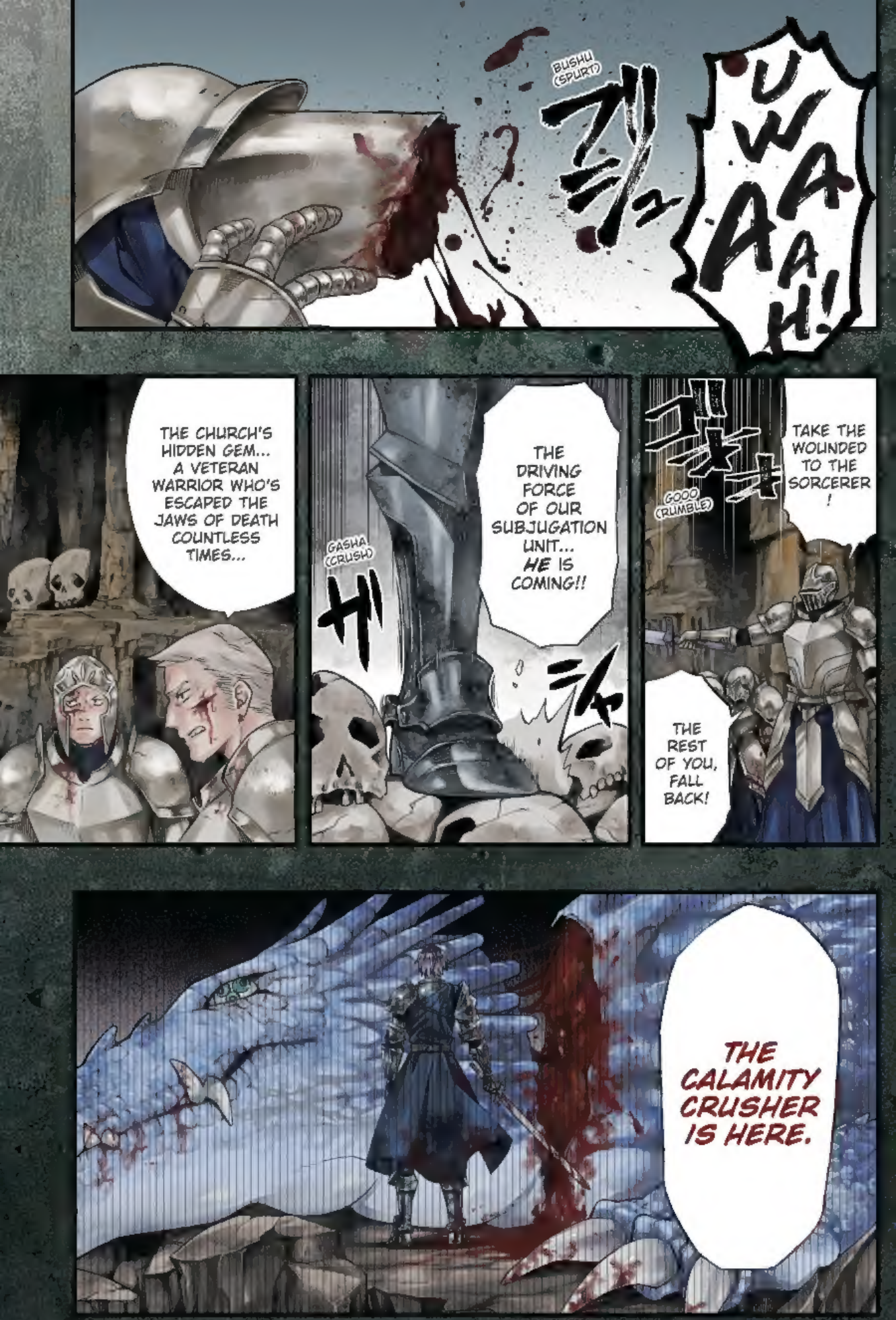
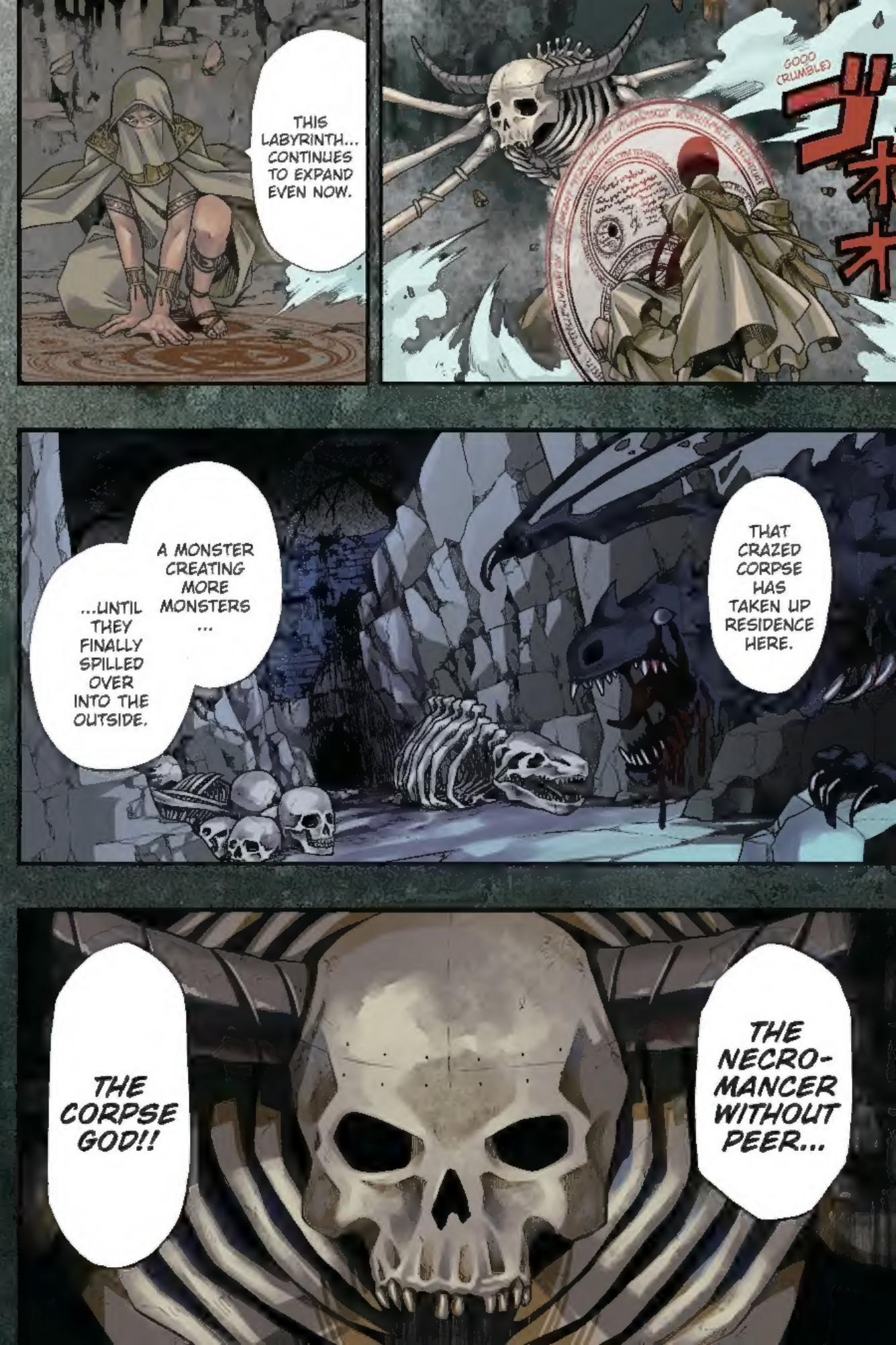

CHAPTER
1
DEAD MOUNT
DEATH PLAY
STORY: Ryohgo Narita
ART: Shinta Fujimoto

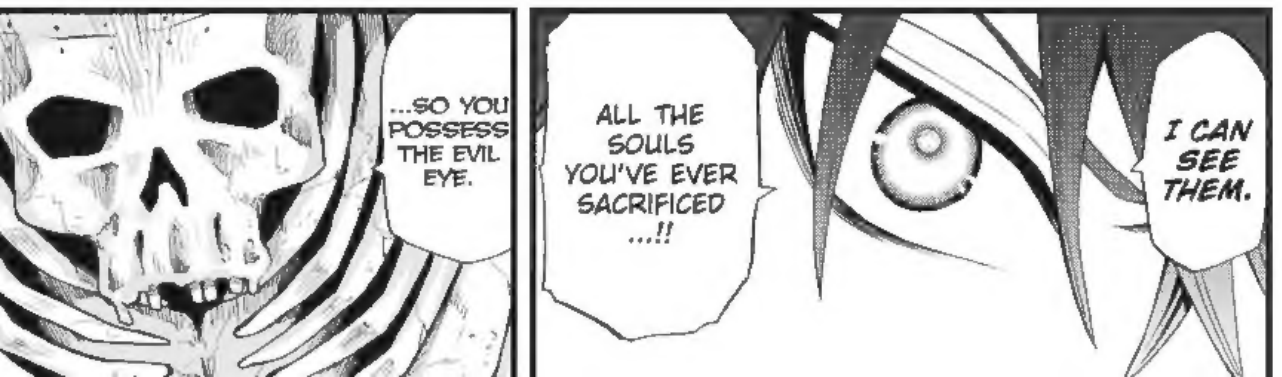

BUSHU (SPURT)
UWAAAH!
THE CHURCH'S HIDDEN GEM... A VETERAN WARRIOR WHO'S ESCAPED THE JAWS OF DEATH COUNTLESS TIMES...
GASHA (CRUSH)
THE DRIVING FORCE OF OUR SUBJUGATION UNIT... HE IS COMING!!
GOOO (RUMBLE)
TAKE THE WOUNDED TO THE SORCERER!
THE REST OF YOU, FALL BACK!
THE CALAMITY CRUSHER IS HERE.

IF THAT MAN CAN'T WIN, THIS WORLD IS DOOMED.
DEAD MOUNT DEATH PLAY #01


THIS LABYRINTH... CONTINUES TO EXPAND EVEN NOW.
GOOD CRUMBLE)
ゴオオ
THAT CRAZED CORPSE HAS TAKEN UP RESIDENCE HERE.
A MONSTER CREATING MORE MONSTERS ...
...UNTIL THEY FINALLY SPILLED OVER INTO THE OUTSIDE.
THE NECRO-MANCER WITHOUT PEER...
THE CORPSE GOD!!

SIR SHAGRUA WON'T LOSE.
SIR SHAGRUA MAY BE CALLED THE CALAMITY CRUSHER, BUT CAN HE REALLY WIN AGAINST THAT...?
IF WE DON'T DEFEAT HIM HERE, THE WORLD WILL BE OVERRUN BY ZOMBIES.

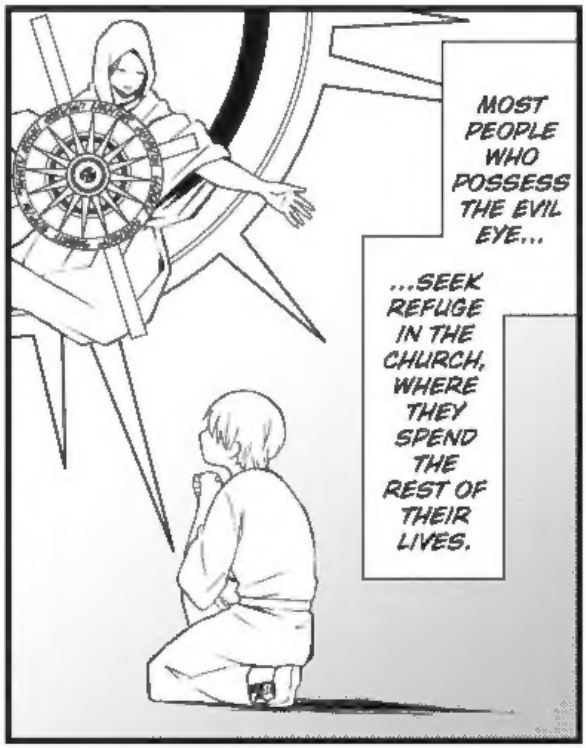
ZA (CSH)
HE IS NOT THE SORT OF MAN WHO WOULD SUCCUMB TO DEATH.
GA (THWACK)


...SO YOU POSSESS THE EVIL EYE.
ALL THE SOULS YOU'VE EVER SACRIFICED ...!!
I CAN SEE THEM.

IF HE'S NOT CAREFUL, HE'LL EVEN SEE THOSE OF BIRDS AND INSECTS. ALL OF THEM.
EVERY-THING FROM THE THIEVES HE'S KILLED TO EVIL SPIRITS...

THEY SAY HE WAS BORN WITH THE ABILITY TO SEE GHOSTS.
"EVIL EYE"?

THAT, OR THEY FIND PLEASURE TOYING WITH SPIRITS...
... BECOMING NECRO-MANCERS LIKE THE CORPSE GOD.


MOST PEOPLE WHO POSSESS THE EVIL EYE...
...SEEK REFUGE IN THE CHURCH, WHERE THEY SPEND THE REST OF THEIR LIVES.

...HE CHOSE THE BATTLE-FIELD.
HE'S A FRENZIED SAINT.

HE'S A MEMBER OF THE CHURCH NOW, BUT...
THE CALAMITY CRUSHER, HE...

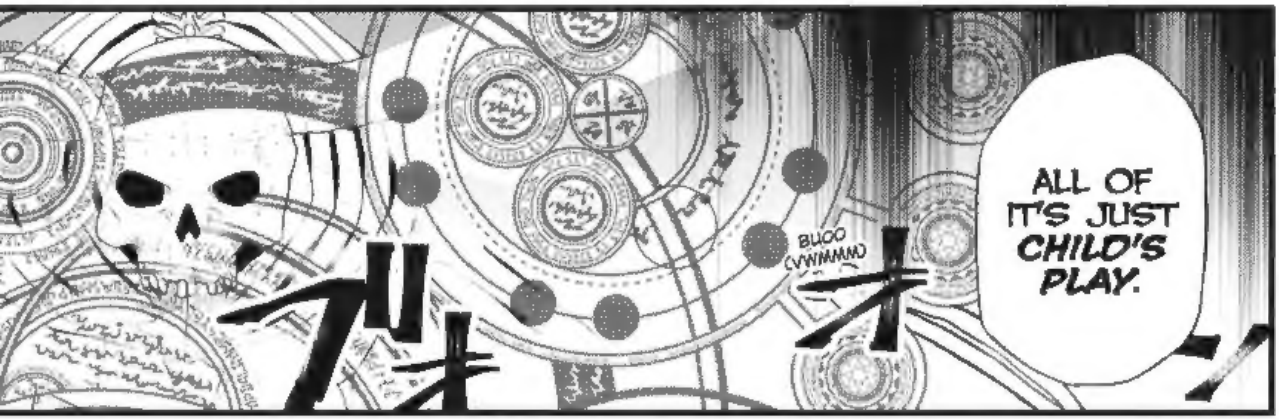
THAT'S IT...
DOGA (CRUNCH)
YOUR TRUE FORM!!
ALL LIVES ARE NOTHING MORE THAN TOYS TO ME.
THE SINS YOU'VE COMMITTED TO PROTECT SUCH A TRIFLING THING...

GODS DON'T PLAY GAMES ...
...NOT LIKE US, WITH OUR EVIL EYES.
DON'T TRY TO ACT LIKE YOU'RE THE GRIM REAPER!!

THE RESENTFUL VOICES RISING UP FROM THE SOULS OF THOSE YOU'VE KILLED.
YOU ENJOY THEM, DON'T YOU?

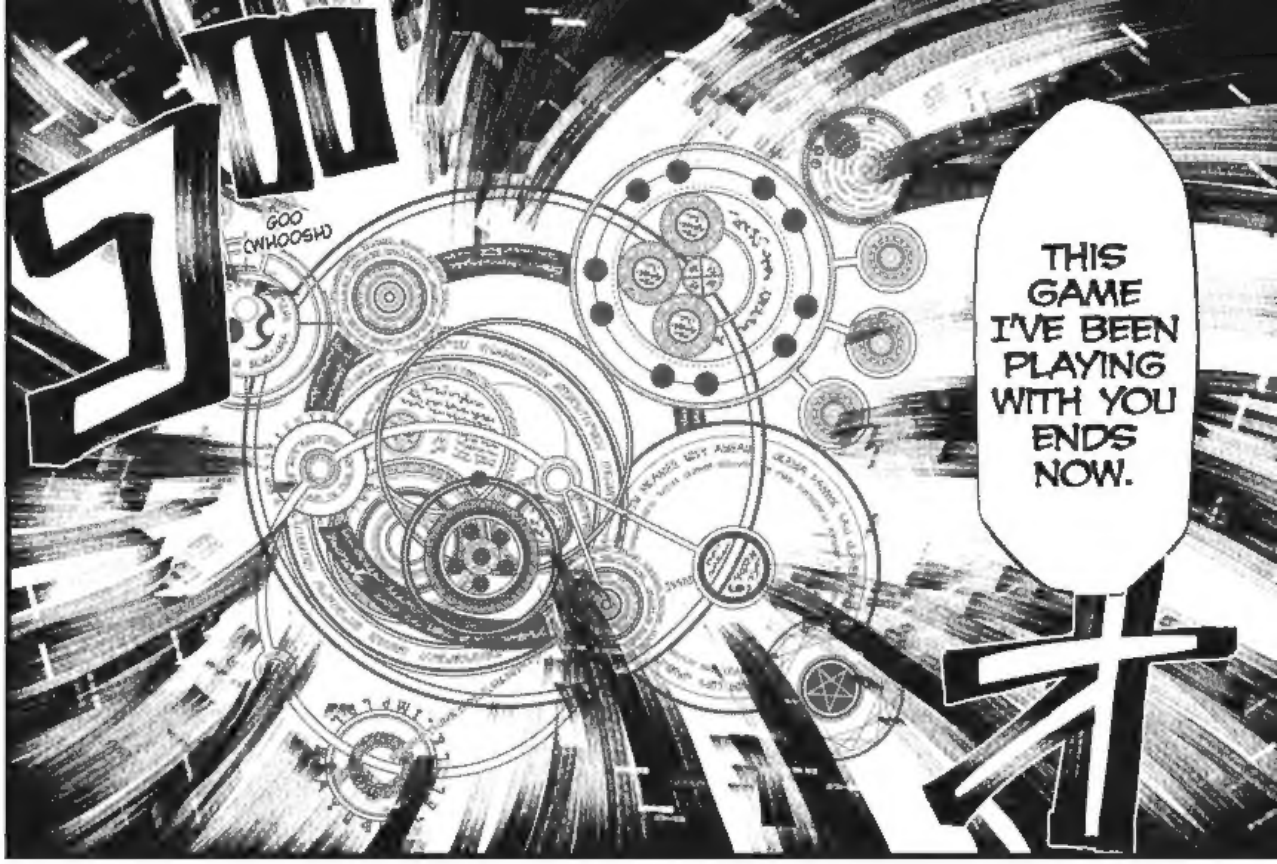
YOU AND I TAKE LIVES FOR FUN.
...YOU BASTARD MONSTER ...!
...DON'T COMPARE YOURSELF TO ME...
GIRL (GRIP)

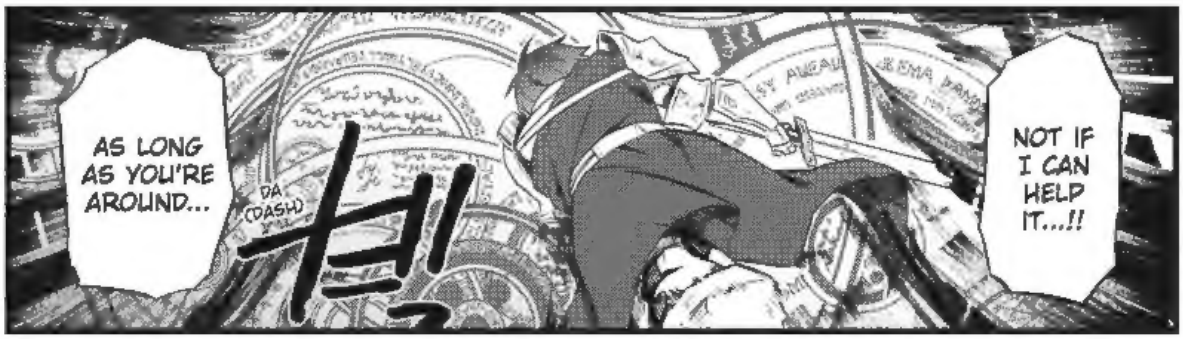
WE BOTH WEAR THE SKIN OF THE GRIM REAPER.
PILING UP MOUNDS OF CORPSES.


BUOO (VWMMM)
ALL OF IT'S JUST CHILD'S PLAY.

LET'S END THIS.

THIS PATTERN... I DON'T KNOW THIS MAGIC!


GOO (WHOOSH)
THIS GAME I'VE BEEN PLAYING WITH YOU ENDS NOW.

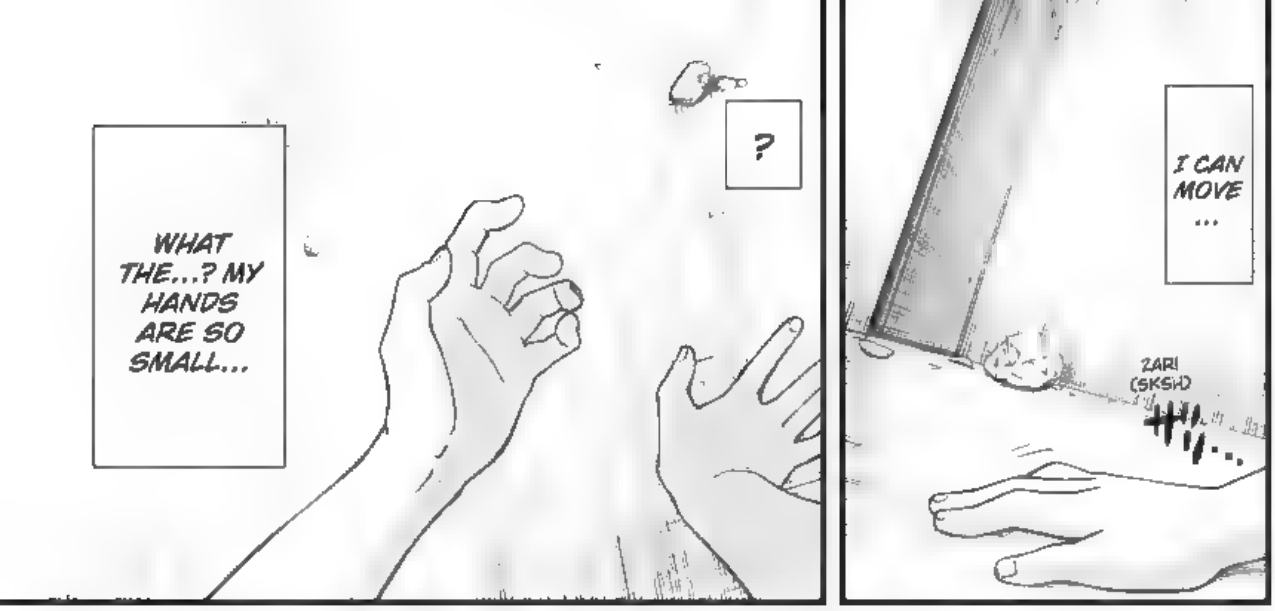

AS LONG AS YOU'RE AROUND...
DA (DASH)
NOT IF I CAN HELP IT...!!

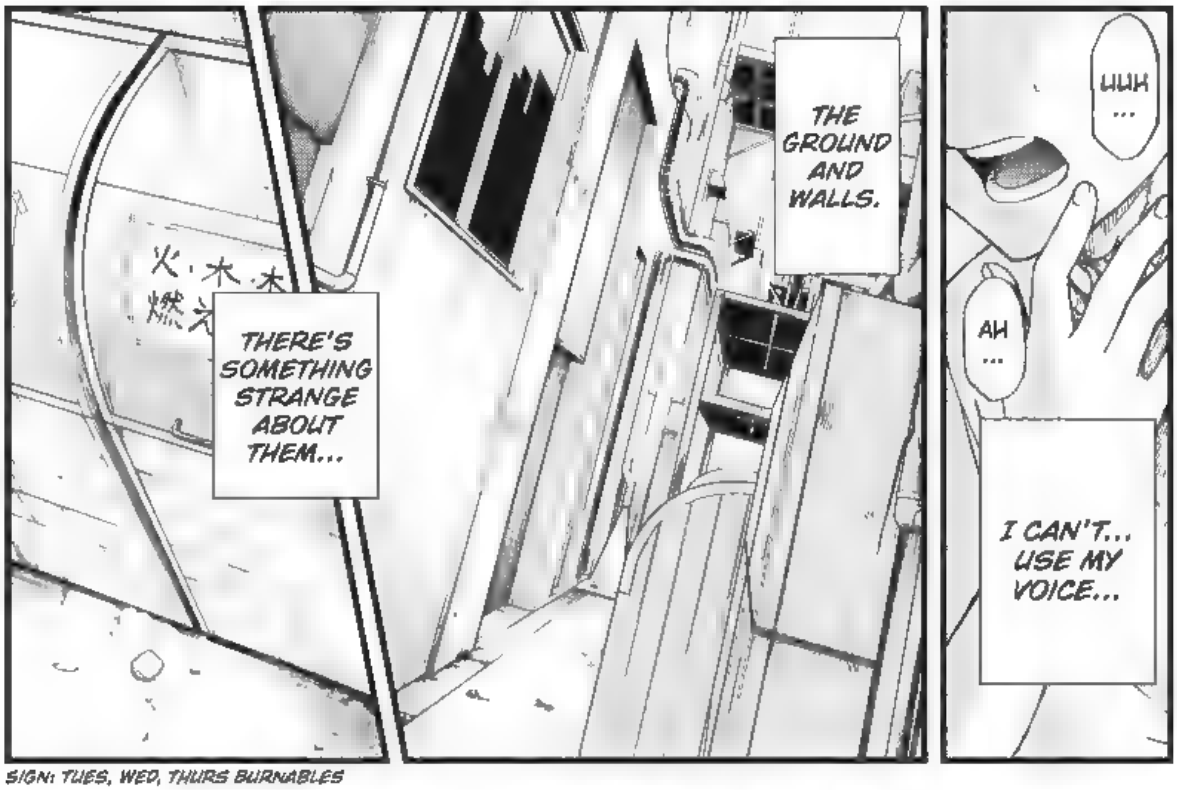
BA- (CRUSH)
I'LL HELP!

...THIS COUNTRY AND ITS CHILDREN ...
...HAVE NO FUTURE...!!

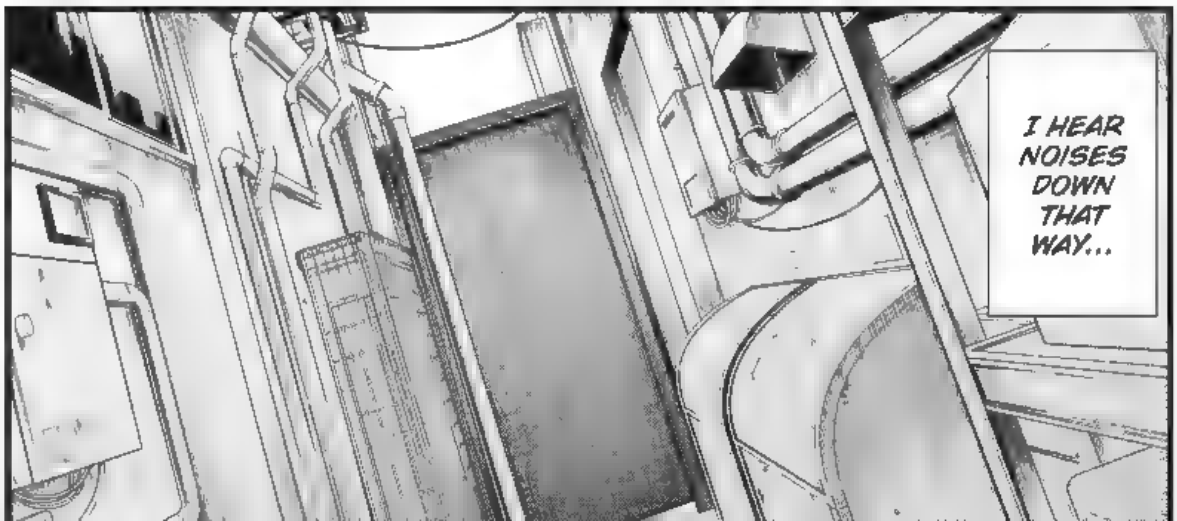
KA
FLASH
SIR.
SHA
KAAA!
OOOO
OHHOOOMO

...IS HAZY...
.....MY MEMORY ...
SOME KIND OF MAGIC...GOT INVOKED?
... THERE WAS MAGIC ...
OH YEAH... BACK THEN...
...AM I?
WHERE ...



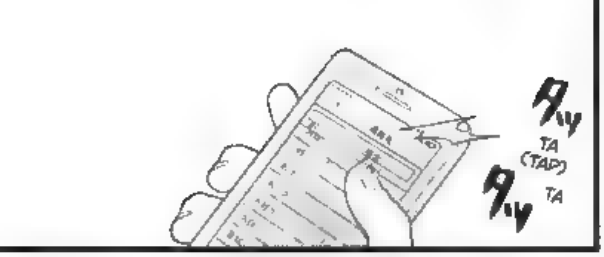


SIGN: TUES, WED, THURS BURNABLES



WHAT IS...THIS PLACE ...!?
携帯レンタル
iPhone
03 6279
3F
磯丸水産
磯丸水産
刺身
TOC

JIII.
(WHRRRR)
HEEEY... IS THIS FOR REAL...?
.....HEY. HEY, HEY, HEY!
WHOA, WHOA, WHOA!?


TA
(TAP)
TA

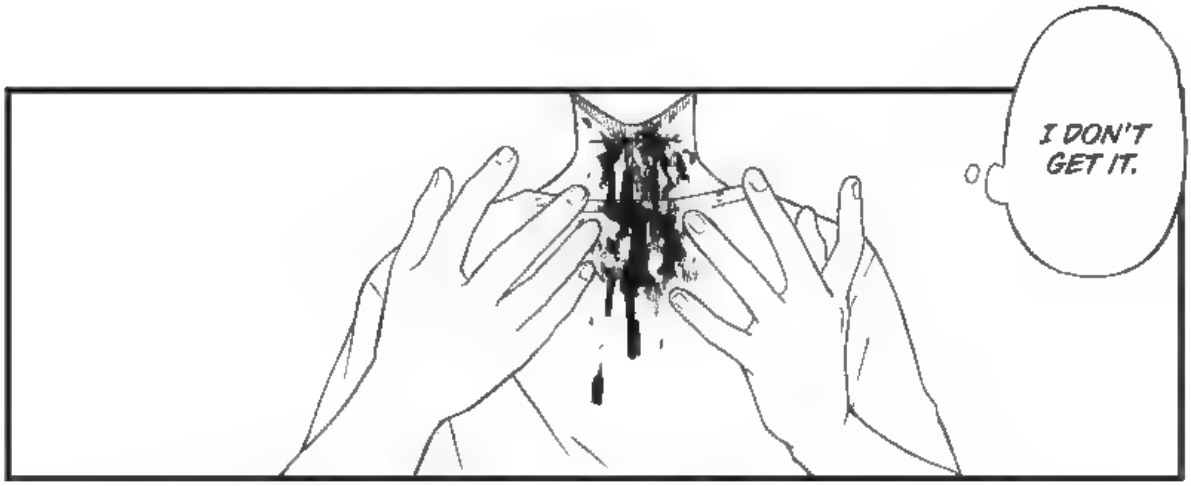
I'M CANCELING THE RETRIEVAL.
THERE'S NO CORPSE IN THE BACK ALLEY.
IT'S ME.

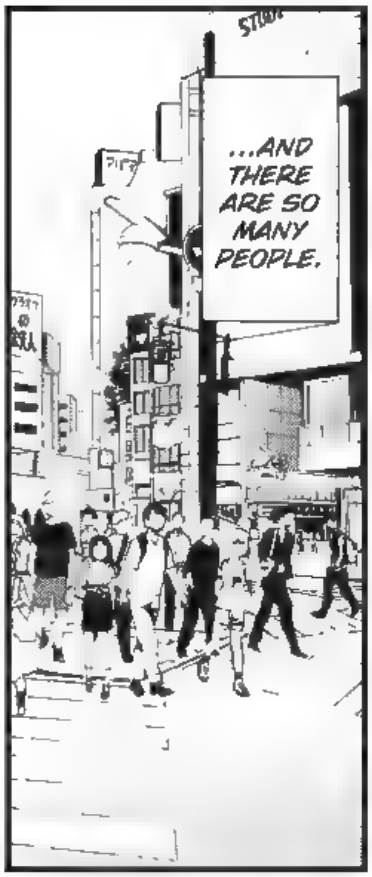
HAVE I FINALLY... LOST MY MIND...?

AN IRREGULAR.
IN FACT, HE'S STILL ALIVE.

...WITH HIS THROAT SLIT?
...BUT HOW CAN HE STILL BE WALKING AROUND ...

.....NO, I CONFIRMED IT...


I DON'T GET IT.


...AND THERE ARE SO MANY PEOPLE.

IS THAT... AN IMAGE PRO-JECTING SPELL?
BUT I DON'T SENSE ANY MAGIC...
I'VE NEVER SEEN SUCH ARCHI-TECTURE ...
...OR THIS KIND OF WRITING.
献血
10階

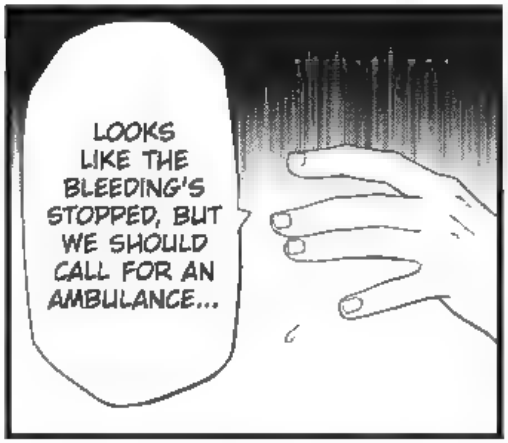
.....BUT WHAT ABOUT... WHERE I WAS?

THIS MUST BE A PEACEFUL LAND.
THAT CHILD LOOKS HEALTHY, SMILING HAPPILY.

S#~7ə ARç●??
I DON'T KNOW IF I CAN GET BACK, BUT AT LEAST IF ITS FUTURE...
Üpr◇? k©S?
WHAT THE...? WHAT HE'S SAYING IS...
..... ACTUALLY... I GUESS I UNDER-STAND BITS AND PIECES ...?
FZ¤4... ...DO YOU UNDER-STAND?
s©P'S... Tsß◆あ WORDS.
Go%Z THE BLOOD ON YOUR CLOTHES
THAT'S NOT JUST A PRINT, RIGHT?
AM I EXTRACTING LINGUISTIC DATA FROM THIS BODY'S BRAIN...?

AH...AAAH... SO THIS IS... JAPANESE.
THE NAME THAT BELONGS TO THIS BODY IS...
...
POLKA... SHINO-YAMA...?

...ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? DO YOU UNDER-STAND US?
CAN YOU TELL US YOUR NAME?


LOOKS LIKE THE BLEEDING'S STOPPED, BUT WE SHOULD CALL FOR AN AMBULANCE...

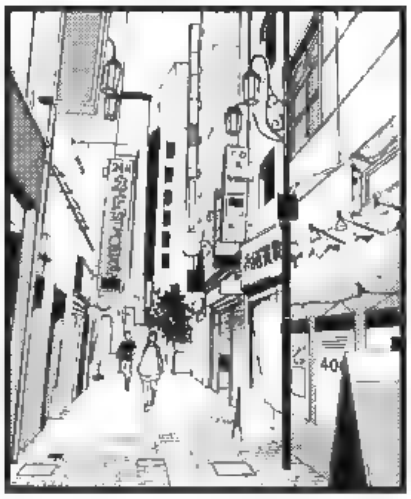
HUH!?
YOU'VE GOT A TERRIBLE WOUND ON YOUR NECK!
MUST BE FROM ABROAD...

BIKU (FLINCH)
ビクッ
GUFH!
GOSU (STOMP)
ゴス

トン
TON (LEAP)
.....!? WHAT THE...!?
AND... YOU ARE?
OH GOOD! YOU'RE ALL RIGHT!
COPS ARE SUCH A PAIN!
HUH? WAI—
HEY! HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!
ANYWAY, RUN!

THEY'RE FAST!!
HOW'D THEY MOVE LIKE THAT ?
HUUUUUUH

GOOD FOR US!
KEE-HA-HA! LOOKS LIKE WE MANAGED TO GET AWAY!

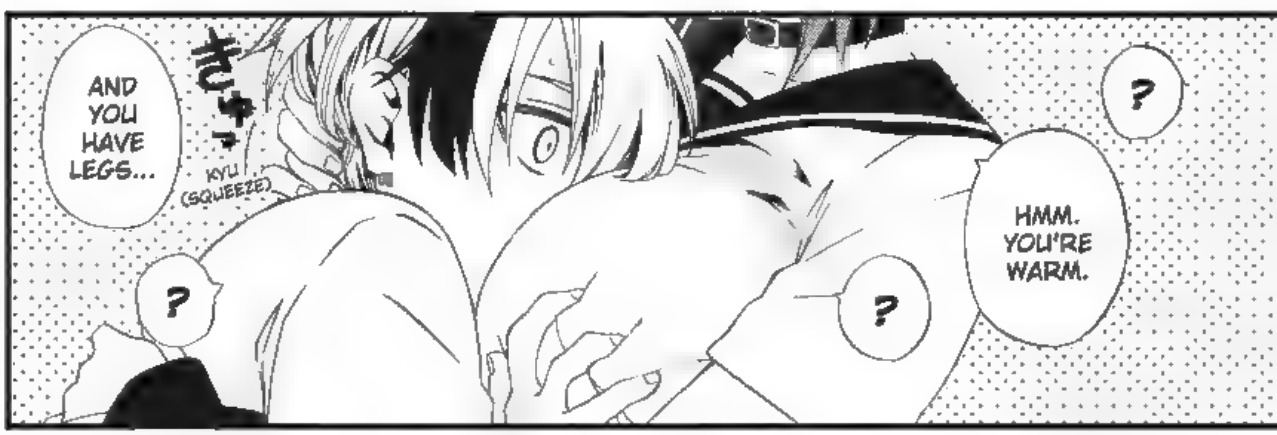


I'M MISAKI SAKIMIYA!

HEY, HEY! DO YOU REMEMBER ME?

MEMORIES OF THIS GIRL ARE COMING BACK TO ME...
IS THERE ANY POINT...IN READING IT BACKWARD?
WHEN YOU READ IT BACKWARD, IT'S KISAMI YAMIKISA!
GUESS WHOEVER'S BODY THIS IS KNOWS HER.
OH. SHE'S LAUGHING.
A BODY SEARCH?
I'M FRISKING YOU.
PUUURA
PUUURA (DANGLE)
CHARIN (CLINK)
...WHAT... ARE YOU DOING?
AND THOSE TWO MEN FROM EARLIER WERE GUARDS OR SOMETHING...
.....

ぽすっ
POSU (POOMF)
ぐいっ
GUI (PULL)
UWAH!


AND YOU HAVE LEGS...
きゅっ
KYU (SQUEEZE)
?
?
HMM. YOU'RE WARM.
?

UHH ...
THANKS ...?
YOU'RE ALIVE AND WELL! GOOD FOR YOU!
IT'S OKAY! YOU'RE NOT A GHOST!

YEAH, BUT YOU SAVED...
AFTER ALL!

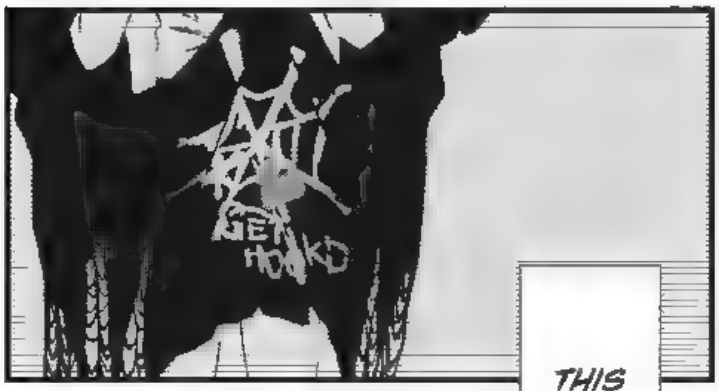
NOW, NOW. NO NEED TO THANK ME.

I'M GONNA KILL YOU AGAIN ANYWAY, OKAY?

YOU KNOW, EARLIER ...
...I CUT YOUR THROAT WITH THIS THING...

.... EXCUSE ME?

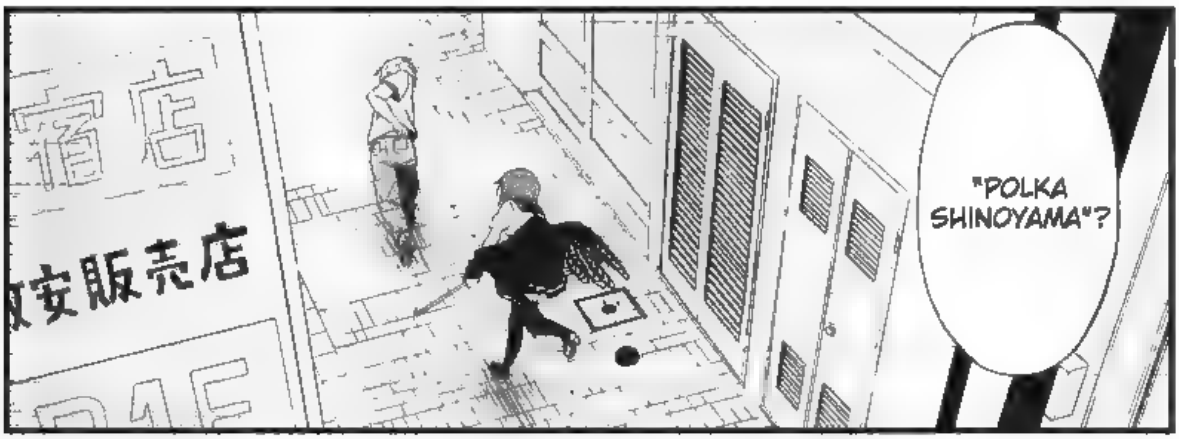
SO HOW COME ...
...YOU'RE STILL ALIVE?


GET HOOKED

THIS GIRL...

THIS IS BAD...!
DOKUN (BADUM)

...IS THE ONE WHO KILLED THIS BODY!


"POLKA SHINOYAMA"?

WHAT WAS WHOEVER HIRED MISAKI THINKING...?
WHIRR (WHRRR)

HE'S ONLY SIXTEEN. I CAN'T BELIEVE THEY'D SIC AN ASSASSIN ON HIM...

OH WELL. THIS TIME, MAKE SURE YOU ACTUALLY DIE, OKAY...?
OTHERWISE, US RETRIEVERS WON'T GET PAID.

AND THE MAGIC ELEMENTS IN THE AIR ARE SO WEAK!
BUT WHAT'S WITH THIS WORLD ANYWAY !?
I CAN BARELY SENSE ANY SPIRITS!
IT'S NO USE...IT'S ALL I CAN DO TO JUST RUN AWAY.
HFF
HFF

ANY NEW WOUNDS I GET WON'T HEAL...!
PLUS, THIS BODY BARELY HAS ANY MAGIC!
I DON'T FEEL THE ENERGY OF THIS PLACE EITHER...
AND MY MEMORIES OF WHAT LED TO THIS ARE SPOTTY AT BEST.
WHAT DO I DO?
CLOSE-RANGE BATTLE WITH A FLIMSY BODY LIKE THIS WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE...
...AND I CAN'T USE ANY MAGIC.
ALL I KNOW IS THAT IF I SUSTAIN EVEN ONE FATAL WOUND...
...I'M AS GOOD AS DEAD...

OKAY.
HIDE AND SEEK IS OVER.

KA (CLANG)
KA
KA

... OOPS. ☆
SHA (SWISH)

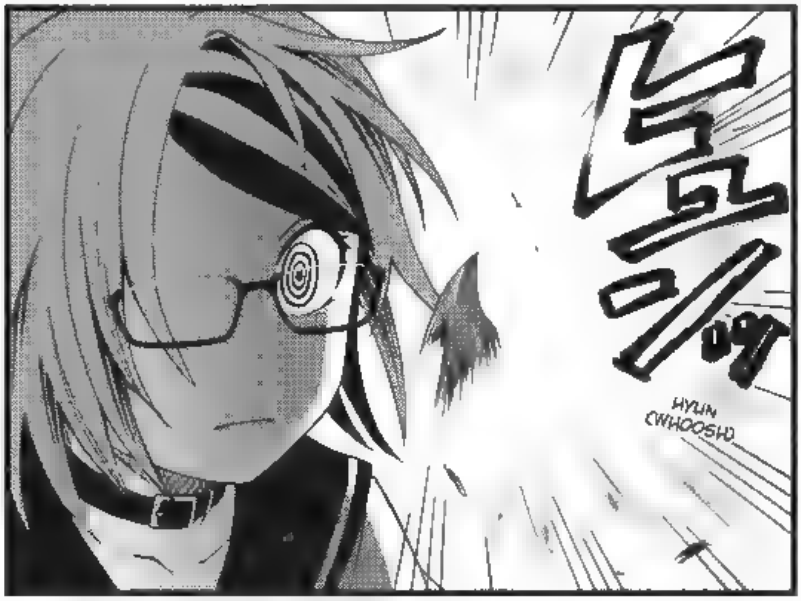
BA (WHIRL)

I THINK... IT'S SORT OF EXCITING FOR ME!
WOW, WOW!
NEVER HAD SOMEONE EVADE ME THIS LONG!
GASHI (GRAB)
...!
BIRI (STING)
BIRI
GA (CLANG)
GA

KEE HA HA!
HYUKAKA (ZWASH)
YOU'VE GOTTA BE KIDDING ME...
GA (WHACK)
KA (TNK)
GAKI (CLANG)
I CAN REACT, BUT THIS BODY CAN'T KEEP UP.
...JUST WHEN A HINT OF THE WORLD I'VE ALWAYS WANTED... IS RIGHT BEFORE MY EYES!

DAN (STAB)
ダン!!
GAKU (LURCH)
カク
BACK THEN...I COULDN'T EVEN CONCEIVE OF IT.
ZOKU (CHILL)

I'VE COME TOO FAR...
...TO GIVE IT UP NOW...!!


HYUN (WHOOSH)

ZU (SHLUCK)

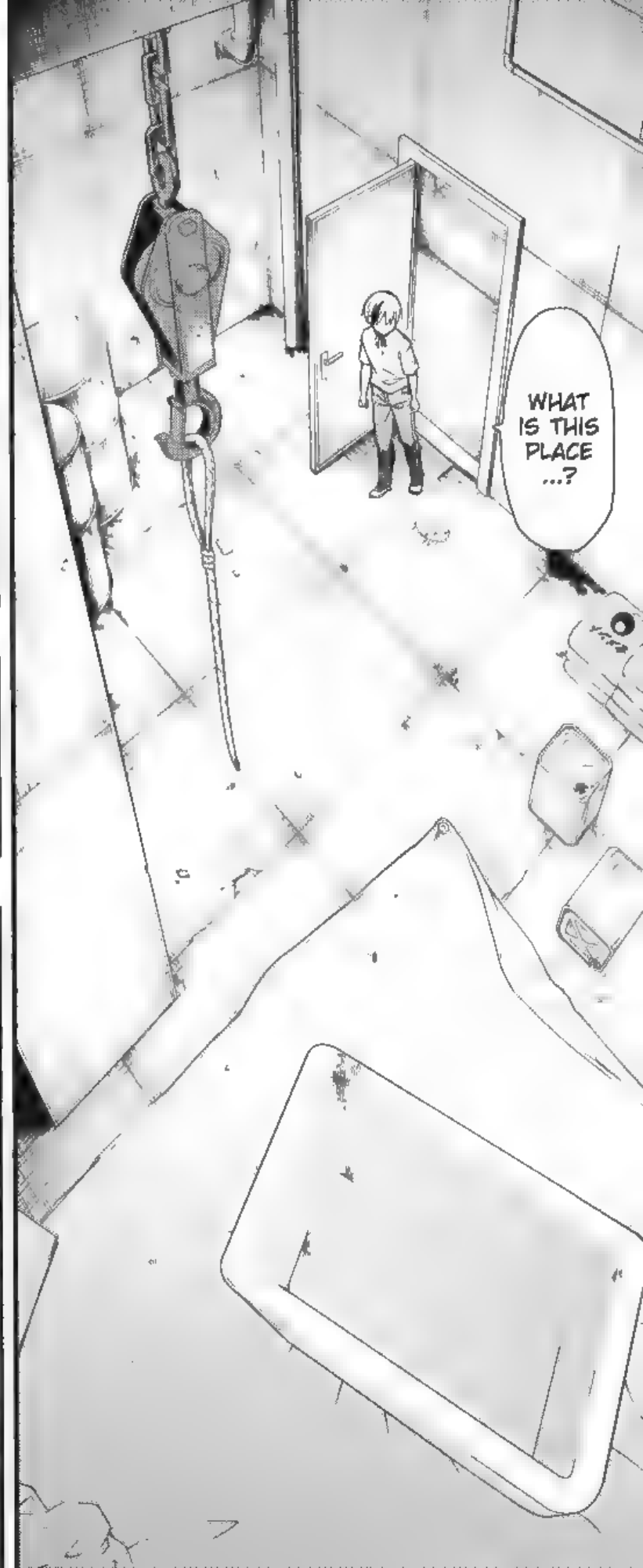
...WOW.
HARA (FLUTTER)

I'VE KILLED MY FAIR SHARE OF GANGSTERS AND MURDERERS.
TA (TMP)
NICE...
BUT THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE EVER BEEN OUTDONE BY ANYONE.
I THINK I MIGHT BE DEVELOPING A CRUSH ON YOU!
KEE HA HA!
GII (CREAK)
TA
TA
TA

IT'S INFAMOUS AMONG MY COLLEAGUES. KNOW WHY?

SHA (SWISH)

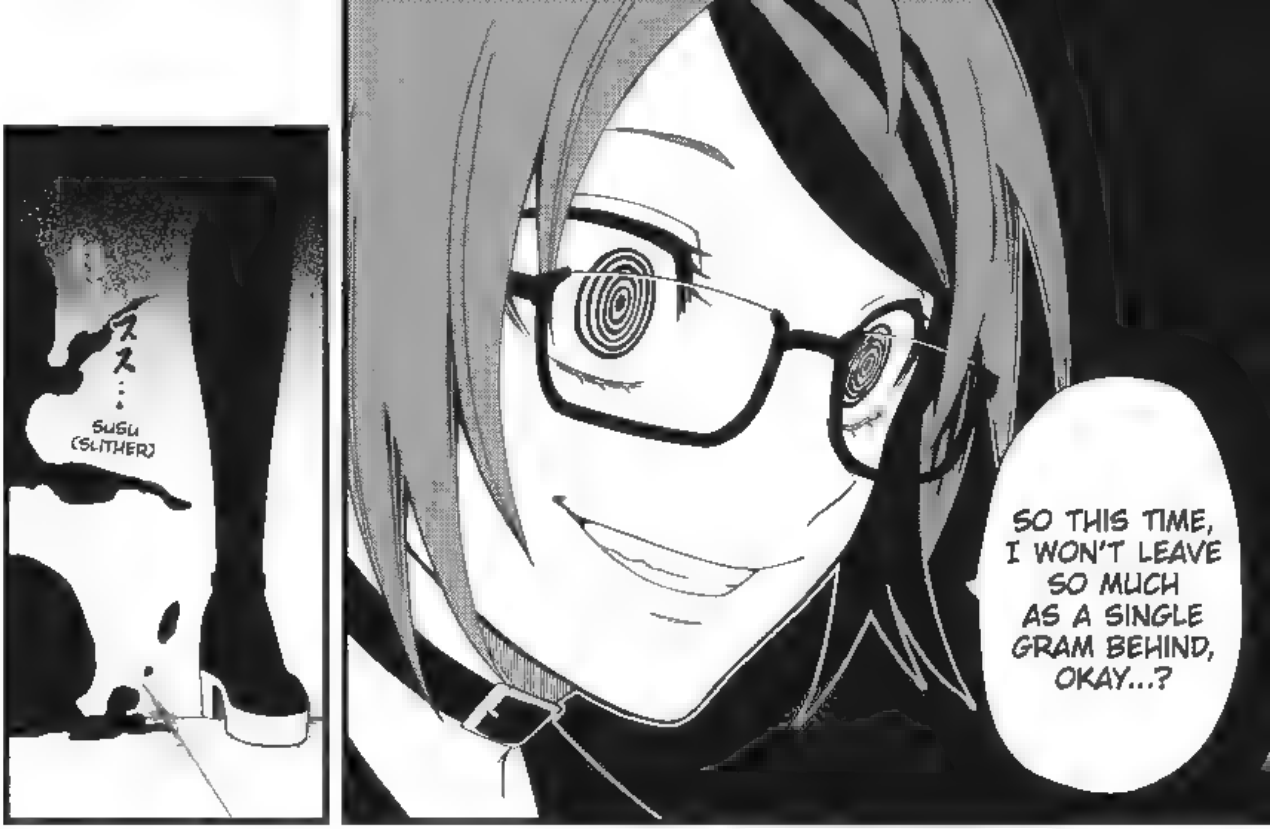
DOSHA (WHUD)


WHAT IS THIS PLACE ...?

AND KNOW WHAT?
RUMOR HAS IT GHOSTS AND THUGS ARE ALWAYS TURNING UP.
THEY'D LIQUIFY PEOPLE AND STUFF. THAT'S THE POWER OF SCIENCE FOR YOU!
THE BUILDING WAS A FAMOUS EXECUTION SITE USED BY GANGSTERS.
THAT'S WHY NOBODY EVER COMES AROUND.
EVEN WITH THESE EYES...
...I CAN SEE THEM CLEAR AS DAY.
YEAH... SO IT WOULD SEEM.
GANGSTERS ARE ONE THING, BUT THE GHOSTS WHAT'S REALLY NEAT!
IT'S THE POWER OF THE OCCULT!

THE PEOPLE WHO USED THIS PLACE...
...HAD FAR TOO LITTLE RESPECT FOR THE LIVES OF OTHERS, HUH?
I GET IT NOW... THOUGH THE SPIRITS OF BEASTS AND BUGS ARE GONE...
...I CAN SEE THE SPIRITS OF PEOPLE THE SAME AS I ALWAYS HAVE.
AND IF I CAN SEE THEM EVEN WITH THIS BODY, THEN...

KEE-HEE! WHAT, WHAT? YOU ONE OF THOSE ADVOCATES FOR THE "VALUE OF HUMAN LIFE"?
...LESS ABOUT THE EYEBALL OR BRAIN AND MORE RELATED TO THE SOUL.
...THE EVIL EYE REALLY IS...
I AGREE! A HUMAN LIFE HAS MORE WEIGHT THAN THE WORLD ITSELF!
ABOUT TWENTY-ONE GRAMS, I'D SAY?
...OUGHT TO TREAT IT BETTER.
AND YOU...
YEAH. I AM.


スス…
SUSU (SLITHER)
SO THIS TIME, I WON'T LEAVE SO MUCH AS A SINGLE GRAM BEHIND, OKAY...?

DA (DASH)
...WHEN I KILL YOU!

I'M GONNA BE SOOOO RESPECT-FUL...

DON'T BE SO CAVA-LIER...

...WHEN HANDLING A LIFE.
ALL LIVES...

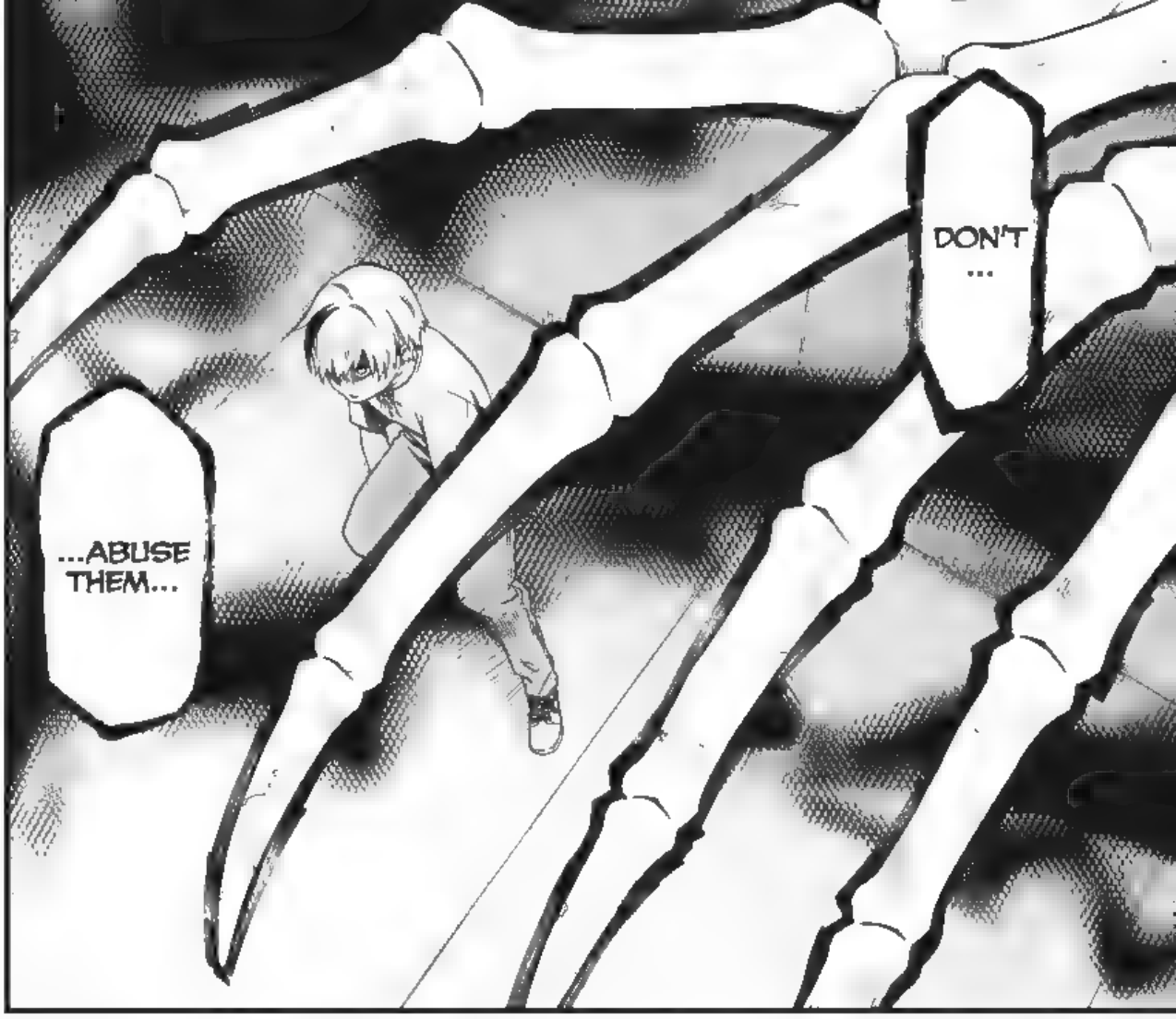
...ARE MY TOYS.
ZUZU (WOOSH)

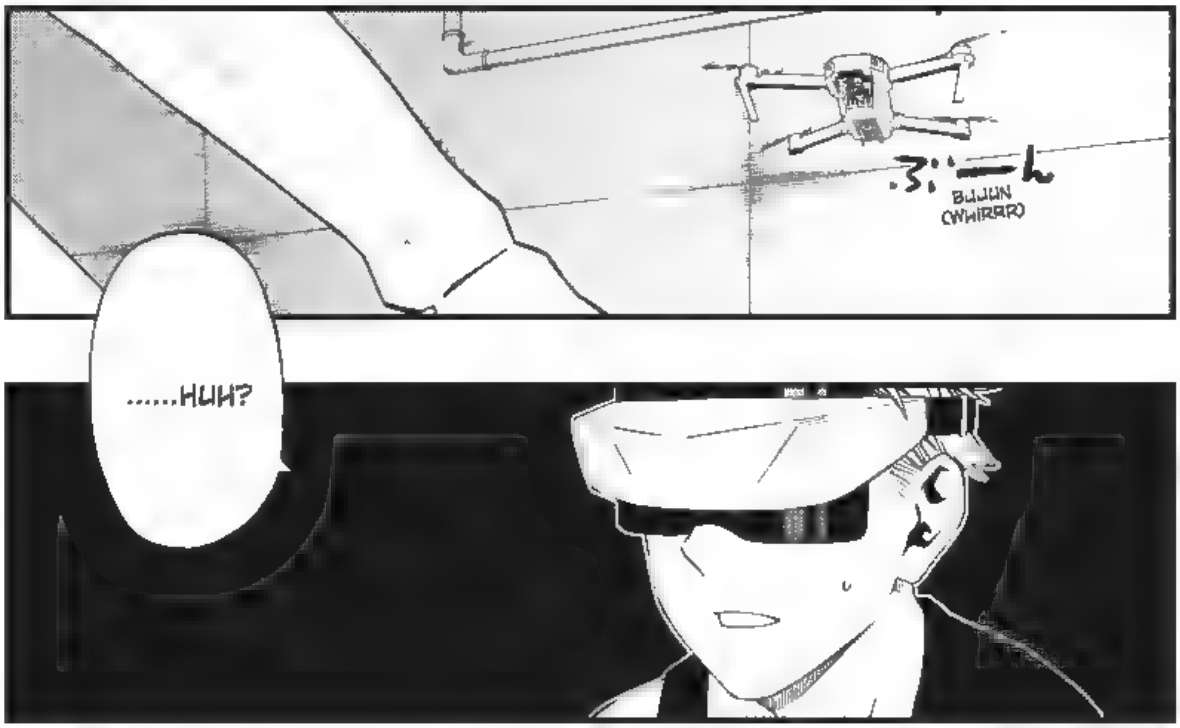
ZUO (WOOSH)
HUH ...?

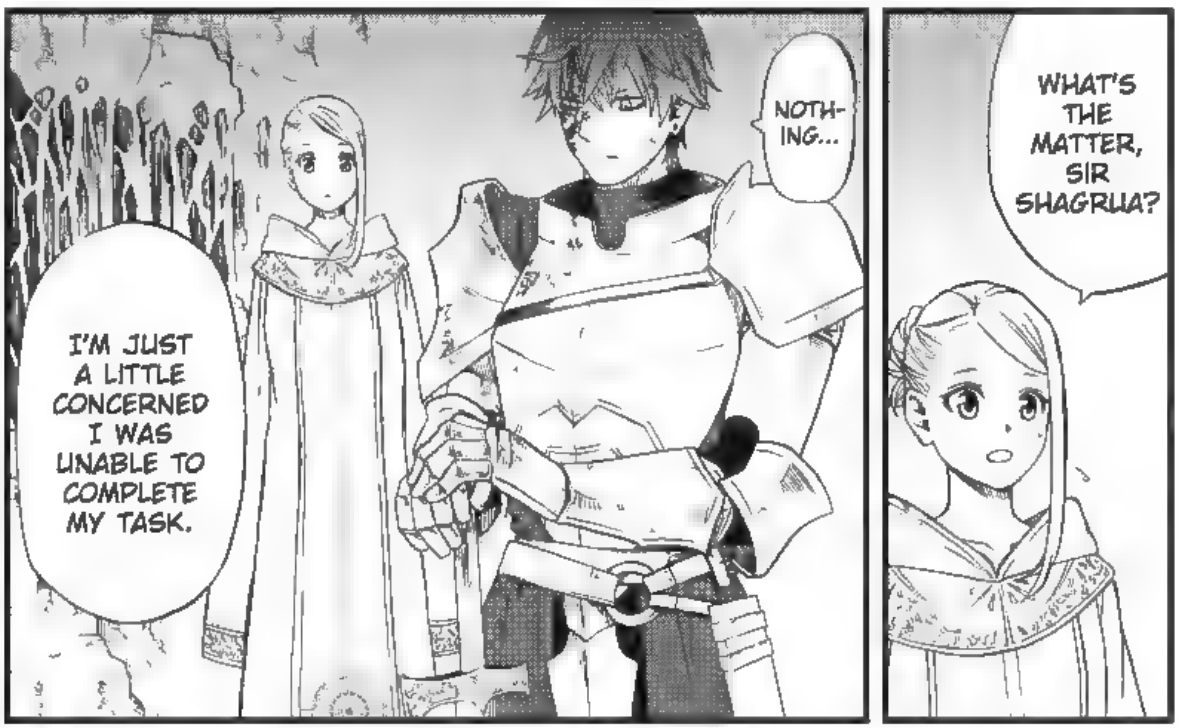
DO
(STAB)

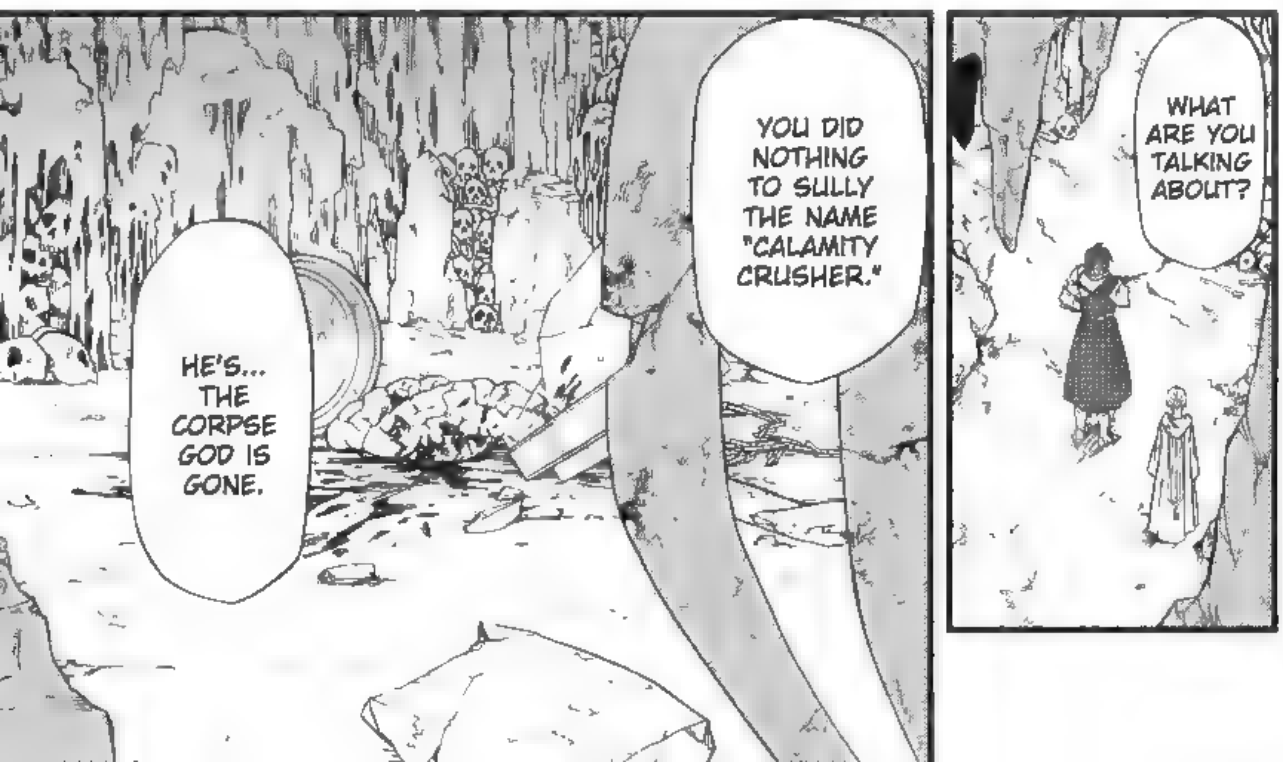
DOKA
(SLAM)

KH
...
AH
...!


DON'T ...
...ABUSE THEM...


ブーン
BUUN (WHIRRR)
.....HUH?


NOTH-
ING...
I'M JUST A LITTLE CONCERNED I WAS UNABLE TO COMPLETE MY TASK.
WHAT'S THE MATTER, SIR SHAGRUA?


YOU DID NOTHING TO SULLY THE NAME "CALAMITY CRUSHER."
HE'S... THE CORPSE GOD IS GONE.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

...I'M CERTAIN HIS SPELL ACTIVATED.
IT FELT LIKE TELE-PORTATION MAGIC...

IN THE FINAL INSTANT WHEN MY SWORD CAME FOR HIM...

DID I DESTROY THAT NECRO-MANCER?
IS THE CORPSE GOD REALLY GONE...?

...AND IN THAT MOMENT... I SAW HIS SOUL WITH MY EVIL EYE.
BUT HIS DIAPPEAR-ANCE SEEMED FAR TOO SUDDEN.

YOU SAVED THE WORLD, SHAGRUA-SAMA.

THEY SAY ALL TRACES OF THE CORPSE GOD'S SOUL HAVE VANISHED FROM THIS WORLD.
WE JUST GOT WORD FROM THE CHURCH'S OBSERVATION UNIT THROUGH A REMOTE SPEECH SPELL.

.....I ONLY HOPE SO.

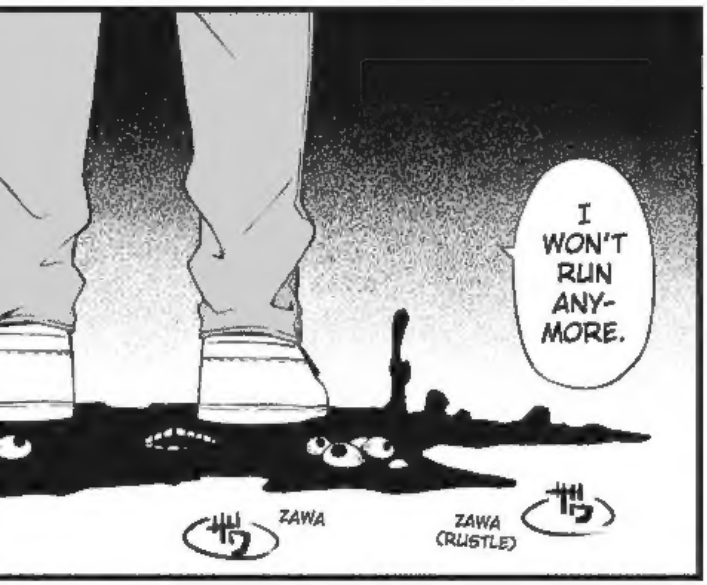
GASH. (SCRATCH)
ガシ
GASH!
ガシ
...THERE WE GO... MY MIND'S SHARPER NOW...

FINALLY MY THINKING'S CLEARER.
KOFF
I'M FILLED WITH MAGIC...

I DON'T KNOW WHY...
...YOU WERE TRYING TO KILL THIS BODY... THIS "POLKA SHINOYAMA"...
MISAKI-CHAN, WAS IT...?
...BUT I MUST OFFER YOU MY THANKS.
THANK YOU.
FOR BRINGING ME TO THIS PLACE SO FULL OF DEAD SPIRITS AND MAGIC.

THIS MIGHT BE WHERE I CAN FIND...

...A QUIET, PEACEFUL LIFE.
ODAKYU
PANCL


I WON'T RUN ANY-MORE.
ZAWA
ZAWA (RUSTLE)

...YOU WERE RIGHT.
I'M DONE PLAYING HIDE AND SEEK.

FROM NOW ON... IT'LL BE YOU AND ME...
...PLAYING OUR "GRIM REAPER" GAMES.
...TO BE CONTINUED!

DEAD MOUNT DEATH PLAY

CHAPTER 1

STORY: Ryohgo Narita ART: Shinta Fujimoto

Translation: Christine Dashiell + Lettering: Abigail Blackman

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New York, NY 10104

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First Yen Press eBook Edition: October 2017

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ISBN: 978-1-9753-2639-5 (ebook)